



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

January 24, 2006

Motion 12239

Proposed No. 2006-0033.2

Sponsors Constantine and Phillips

1 A MOTION establishing the 2006 State Legislative
2 Agenda for King County.

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4
5 WHEREAS, the metropolitan King County council and the King County
6 executive have worked through the joint King County legislative steering committee to
7 develop a state legislative agenda and desire to bring their positions on issues facing the
8 2006 Washington State Legislature to the attention of the Washington state Legislature,
9 and

10 WHEREAS, King County desires to work cooperatively with other local
11 governments and other organizations such as the Washington State Association of
12 Counties, the Washington Association of County Officials, the Suburban Cities
13 Association, the Association of Washington Cities and the Washington Transit
14 Association to achieve its 2006 legislative goals, and

15 WHEREAS, counties have been recognized by the Legislature as partners with
16 the state in the delivery of such critical services as transportation, criminal justice, public
17 health, community and human services and water resources, and

18 WHEREAS, King County is dependent on a strong fiscal partnership with the
19 State, and

20 WHEREAS, if King County is going to be able to continue delivering basic
21 government services to our residents, it needs a preservation, if not an expansion, of state
22 support, and

23 WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive will
24 continue to review legislative developments for possible revisions of King County's 2006
25 state legislative program;

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

27 The King County council adopts the attached 2006 Legislative Agenda for King

28 County as King County's highest priorities for action in the 2006 legislative session of
29 the Washington state Legislature.

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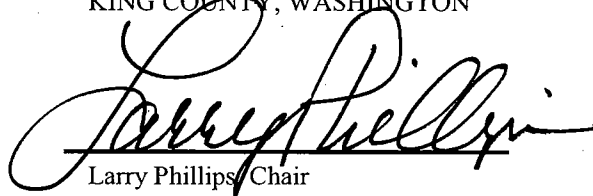
Motion 12239 was introduced on 1/17/2006 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 1/23/2006, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Ferguson, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Constantine

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Mr. Gossett

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips/Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. King County 2006 State Legislative Agenda dated 1-23-06, B. King County 2006 Statement of State Policy Positions dated 1-23-06



King County 2006 State Legislative Agenda

1-23-06

1	Department	Item	Description
	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)	Mental Health Funding	<p>A. King County requests \$21.9 million in supplemental budget funds to achieve adequate Medicaid rates.</p> <p>B. King County supports the original allocation methodology for mental health funding stated in the 2005 budget proviso concerning state-only funds. We request \$7.4 million in a supplemental appropriation to fund non-Medicaid services for those in need in King County.</p> <p>C. King County requests funding of “liquidated damages” to King County’s RSN, as occurred in Pierce County.</p>
	Department of Records, Elections and Licensing Services	Elections	<p>A. Primary Date: King County supports the proposal submitted by the Secretary of State to move the primary to the third Tuesday in August with adjustments to the dates for candidate filing, extending the certification period for special elections and primaries, and amending the cutoff dates for filing resolutions calling for special elections.</p> <p>B. Ballot Processing Machines: King County requests funding for new high-speed ballot processing machines in order to process a larger volume of ballots more quickly to meet the demanding deadlines for certification of elections.</p> <p>C. Automated Signature Verification: King County supports amendments to RCW 29A.40.110 and corresponding administrative rules to authorize the adoption of automated signature verification and OSOS authority to draft rules for standards and criteria for its use.</p> <p>D. Voter Challenges: King County supports legislation that amends the voter registration challenge process to: clarify the ability of those without traditional residential addresses to register to vote, require the challenger to file their challenge in proper form including the factual basis on which the challenge is made, and to maintain the requirement that challenges based on residency require the challenger to provide the address at which they believe the voter actually resides. Additionally, for challenges filed within thirty days of an election where the challenged voter has returned a voted absentee ballot prior to the filing of the challenge, the challenges shall be processed as if received more than thirty days prior to an election and the ballot for the current election will be processed.</p> <p>E. Voting Rights for Former Felons: King County supports legislation that would simplify the process of restoring voting rights for former felons – specifically that voting rights of former felons is automatically reinstated upon release from incarceration. Many States, including neighboring Oregon, Idaho, Utah and many other Western states automatically reinstate the civil rights of former felons.</p>



	<u>Department</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
3	Executive	Annexation Reform and Smart Growth Management	<p>A. GMA Implementation/Annexation Transition Funding - King County supports the creation of GMA implementation funding for cities to address capital infrastructure improvements.</p> <p>B. Surface Water and Local Parks Facilities and Properties Automatically Transferred to Cities upon Annexation - King County supports amending RCW 36.89 and/or 36.94 so that surface water management facilities, properties and local parks facilities and properties owned and/or maintained by counties become the responsibility of cities upon an annexation or incorporation. RCW currently provides for county roads to become cities' responsibility at the time of annexation/incorporation – this requested action would provide the same for surface water facilities and properties, and local parks facilities and properties.</p>
4	Department of Transportation (KCDOT)	Transportation Solutions	<p>King County supports legislation that identifies additional revenues for cities and counties to meet urgent and growing needs of maintaining aging transportation infrastructure, and general transportation improvements to increase the overall carrying capacity of the transportation system while revenues are diminishing. Specifically, King County supports:</p> <p>A. Legislation that identifies funding to replace the VLF revenues lost to King County and the cities within King County with the passage of I-776 (\$18 million per year in VLF revenues lost to local jurisdictions in King County), and that authorizes new or higher user fees at the local and regional level.</p> <p>B. Passenger-Only Ferries (POF): Support continuation of passenger-only ferry service (POF) between Vashon Island and Seattle provided by the Washington State Ferries (WSF) through the end of the 2007 fiscal year.</p>
5	Department of Public Health	Public Health Funding; Communicable Diseases Funding	<p>A. King County supports a revenue source to adequately fund “basic public health” and the consequences of new and emerging terrorism threats and communicable diseases such as SARS, TB, and West Nile Virus.</p> <p>B. King County supports emergency funding to prepare for possible pandemic influenza outbreak.</p>
6	Department of Natural Resources and Parks	Habitat Project Liability; Puget Sound Recovery; Salmon Recovery; Regional Trail Acquisition; Prevention Grants; Regional Water	<p>A. Habitat Project Liability: King County supports legislation to reduce local government liability for unexpected damages accrued to third parties following completion of a habitat restoration or improvement project</p> <p>B. Puget Sound Recovery Initiative: King County supports a new RCW or amendments to existing RCW's pertinent to enabling a coordinated and comprehensive recovery of Puget Sound including coordination with Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan; water supply planning; and appropriate roles of tribal, local and state agencies including PSAT, DOE,</p>



	<u>Department</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
		Supply	<p>WADNR and WDFW.</p> <p>C. Salmon Recovery Funding: Maintain state funding for Salmon Recovery Funding Board and Lead Entity grants. King County also opposes any reductions in biennium allocations for other related state grants programs such as the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, etc.</p> <p>D. Regional Trail Acquisition - Multimodal Greenway Corridor: King County supports funding to secure the BNSF railroad right of way. This contiguous property is approximately 100 feet wide and stretches from the north end of Renton into the City of Snohomish. The regional trail system now offers over 100 miles of paved and nearly 70 miles of unpaved trails. These funds would help to secure the link that would create a seamless regional trail system in King and Snohomish Counties.</p> <p>E. Coordinated Prevention Grants: Restore \$8 million in funding for the CPG program that was reduced in the 2005 legislative session.</p> <p>F. State Funding for King County Regional Water Supply Plan: King County supports state funding to support the countywide water supply planning process that was endorsed by a multi-stakeholder "Scoping Committee" forwarded to the Executive and Council in a "Planning Framework" on October 31, 2005. Funding would support state agency participation, technical studies, and administrative support.</p>
7	Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention	Mental Health Jail; Credit Conversion Language	<p>A. Mental Health Jail: King County opposes legislation that seeks to build a Mental Health Jail in King County as a solution to mental health issues among the jail population in Washington State.</p> <p>B. Credit Conversion: King County supports legislation clarifying credit or conversion language re: time spent in County supervised community options, allowing courts to authorize earned release credit consistent with local correctional facility standards for convicted non-violent, non-sex offenders.</p>
8	Superior Court	Reinvesting in Youth	<p>A. Reinvesting in Youth: King county supports legislation amending RCW 13.40 and creation of a RIY account in the State Treasury to sustain ongoing funding and support to current program capacity created under the pilot program that was created in a 2005 state budget proviso - that invests in research-proven prevention and early intervention programs. Counties are reimbursed for a portion of the savings that accrue to the state as a result of local investments in such programs. King County would like to see ongoing funding for this program.</p>
9	Executive Services	Emergency	<p>A. Emergency Management Funding: King County supports creation of a funding</p>



	<u>Department</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
	- Emergency Management	Management Funding	<p>mechanism for state and local emergency management, similar to the State of Florida's, which accesses a small fee (\$2-\$4) on property insurance policies to fund emergency management planning/response. This revenue source could fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. SEMS: King County supports adoption of a Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) like that of California – which creates the framework for multi-agency and intra-agency coordination at the state and local level, incident response systems (ICS), master mutual aid agreements and operational areas concepts. II. Regional Emergency Management Offices: King County supports the establishment of state emergency management regional offices to assist counties and cities in developing individual and regional integrated approaches to emergency and disaster preparedness. III. Seismic Safety Research: King County supports funding for a seismic safety research and preparedness program that works in concert with USGS, that is appropriate for the 2nd most vulnerable state in the nation to seismic issues (earthquakes, volcanoes, and tsunamis). IV. Public Education: King County supports a public education program, as this is a key part of a successful emergency management plan (currently, the entire State funded all-hazards public education budget for the last biennium was \$33K). V. Citizen Access to Medications: King County supports legislation that allows citizens to keep life saving medications on hand for a minimum of seven days (many current medical insurance policies do not allow citizens to purchase appropriate levels of medications to keep on hand in case of emergencies).
10	Department of Development and Environmental Services (DDES)	Public Benefit Rating System; Clean Water Act Qualified Local Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Public Benefit Rating System: King County supports legislation that would amend state statutes establishing standards for the public benefit rating system to reduce the penalties for leaving the program. This could make the program more of an incentive to property owners impacted by limitations designed to protect the environment. B. Clean Water Act Qualified Local Programs: King County supports legislation that would amend state law to allow the Department of Ecology to take advantage of their authority, under the federal clean water act, to approve city and county storm water programs that provide equivalent protection. Currently, Ecology has concluded that existing state law does not allow it to take advantage of this authority.



King County

12239 ATTACHMENT B
King County
2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY
POSITIONS

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Executive Services/ Finance	Leveraged Leasing Authority	King County supports legislation that would clarify the authority of public entities to enter into leveraged lease transactions and clarify the tax status of such transactions. The current inability to enter into such transactions means that the County has not been able to take advantage of opportunities to lease the West Point Treatment Plant and transit buses, which could result in significant present value savings.
2	Executive/ Prosecuting Attorney/ Sheriff	Expansion of Gambling	King County is opposed to the expansion of gambling in order to generate revenues for the state and/or local governments.
3	Executive	Tax Increment Financing	King County supports Tax Increment Financing legislation, as long as the County's revenue base is protected. This legislation has the potential to help attract and retain businesses and put underutilized property that might not otherwise be developed to productive use.
4	Executive Services/ Finance and Business Operations	Revisions to County Financial Approval Processes	<p>King County supports amendments to various provisions of state law relating to the processing and approval of vendor payments, payroll and travel advances to clarify approval authority.</p> <p>Current state law (RCW 42.24.080 and 42.24.180) requires the County Council to approve all payments made by the County -- both payroll and all vendor payments. This particular statute makes sense in a county without an elected chief executive officer -- where the County Commission performs both the executive and legislative functions. In a charter county with an elected executive, however, the requirement makes no sense and is tantamount to the legislative body performing executive branch functions.</p> <p>Legislation would be drafted to clarify the statutes that in a county with a separately elected chief executive approval by the legislative body of every payroll and every vendor payment <i>prior</i> to payment would not be required.</p> <p>If the County had to comply with current law, it would decrease efficiency by introducing an additional unnecessary step in the County's payroll and vendor payment processes.</p>
5	Executive	Manufacturing Industry	Support greater state participation in providing matching dollars for federal manufacturing industry enhancement programs and continued support of the South Seattle Community College Puget Sound Manufacturing Excellence Center.
6	Executive	63-20 Financing New Item	King County supports maintaining "63-20" financing as an option for large jurisdictions like King County. 63-20 financing is a project delivery method that complies with the requirements of Internal Revenue Service Revenue Ruling 63-20. It is a well-established method that allows private entities to finance and deliver facilities constructed for use by government agencies or government sanctioned organizations. It maintains the advantage of tax exempt financing available for other public works delivery methods -- but utilizes the full resources and expertise of the private sector development community to provide early cost and schedule guarantees to governmental users. Once a comprehensive 63-20 agreement has been signed, the developer assumes all project risk relative to cost and schedule.



King County 2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY POSITIONS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE/PUBLIC SAFETY/COURTS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Executive/ Budget/ DCHS/ Criminal Justice Agencies	Funding for Extraordinary Justice Costs	King County seeks reimbursement of extraordinary criminal justice costs under the Extraordinary Justice Costs Act, incurred by the County to investigate and adjudicate aggravated murder cases. King County is often faced with several extraordinary criminal cases that have a disproportionate fiscal impact on public defense, the Prosecutor's Office and other criminal justice agencies.
2	Superior Court/ DAJD Juvenile Services/ Department of Community and Human Services	Becca Funding for At-Risk Youth	King County supports the maintenance of 2003-2005 approved funding for state-mandated services for at-risk youth, child-in-need-of-services, and truancy petitions. The Becca processes allow families and the courts to work together to address the needs of children at risk.
3	Superior Court/ DAJD Juvenile Services	Consolidated Juvenile Services Funding	King County supports increased funding for Consolidated Juvenile Services (CJS) contracts with local juvenile courts. CJS supports juvenile offender treatment including probation, Community Juvenile Accountability Act, Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative, and Sex Offender Disposition Alternative services.
4	Superior Court	Judicial Discretion	King County supports legislation developed by the Superior Court Judge's Association to return judicial discretion in sentencing.
5	Sheriffs Office	Seizure, forfeiture, destruction & criminalize- tion of explosives.	<p>King County supports legislation that authorizes a law enforcement agency to destroy explosives, improvised devices, or components seized when the agency determines that it is impractical or unsafe to store the explosives, improvised devices, or components.</p> <p>Support additional language to RCW 70.74.180 that reads: A person is guilty of a class C felony if he or she manufactures, possesses, stores, sells, purchases, transports, or uses an explosive or a component of an explosive for an unlawful purpose under circumstances not amounting to a violation of RCW 70.74.180.</p>
6	Superior Court	CASA	King County supports the Administrator of the Courts request for a \$300,000 increase in funding for CASA programs. CASA programs provide trained citizen volunteers to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in court.
7	DAJD	DOSA New Item	King County supports legislation to modify and clarify provisions of HB 2015 passed by the 2005 Legislature. The bill carries the potential for greatly increased stays in a local jail and transfers financial responsibility for DOSA inmates to local government. DAJD's goal is to reverse these adverse impacts.
8	DAJD	Transition	King County supports legislation and funding that provides increased



King County 2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY POSITIONS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
		Services New Item	services for community treatment beds and homeless services as well as "gap services" and case management resources for non-Medicaid eligible clients prior to release from local jails (transition services).
9	DAJD	Day Reporting New Item	King County supports expansion of the definition of "confinement" to include day and evening reporting centers as a sentencing alternative available to the Court.
10	DAJD	Returning of Offenders	Oppose HB 2425, which requires that upon completion of their sentence, offenders be returned to the county of their conviction
11	Law Library	Governing Board Autonomy New Item	King County opposes legislation that curtails the autonomy and powers of county law library boards of trustees to provide law library services to meet the needs of county residents as outlined in RCW 27.24.030
12	Law Library	Options to Diversify Funding New Item	<p>King County supports the exploration of options to diversify county law library revenue sources as outlined in RCW 27.24.070. Currently, funding for county law libraries comes from a share of the civil filing fee in District and Superior Court. No funding support for county law libraries comes from the criminal side of the court's operations.</p> <p>Potential options to consider include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A law library fee collected in all criminal prosecutions and traffic infractions in which, upon conviction, the defendant is ordered to pay costs in addition to a fine or other penalty. The fee collected could be statewide or a local option. If a local option, then upon the recommendation of the law library board of trustees and the approval of the county legislative body, the law library fee would be imposed against any convicted defendant ordered to pay costs. • Allocation to law library operations of a small percentage of moneys collected from forfeited bail in any court in the country.
13	Council	Privacy New Item	King County supports legislation to prohibit the sale or public distribution of private cellular telephone bills and data without the permission of the cellular telephone subscriber.



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King County 2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY POSITIONS

HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ DDD	Developmental Disabilities Funding	King County supports legislation for adequate resources to meet all obligations to individuals with developmental disabilities who are on Federal waivers, and supports early intervention services, family support, employment day programs, and other community-based service.
2	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ MHCADSD/ DAJD	Substance Abuse Treatment for Non-Medicaid Clients	King County supports funding for substance abuse treatment for non-Medicaid clients. The increase in treatment funding passed by the 2005 Legislature significantly reduced the treatment gap in King County for the Medicaid population. This request addresses the need for substance abuse services for people who are not eligible for Medicaid.
3	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ DDD	Transition Funds for High School Graduates with Developmental Disabilities	King County supports legislation that ensures adequate transition funds to assist high school graduates with developmental disabilities to learn job skills, find jobs, and obtain ongoing support in order to retain a job or participate in a day program.
4	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ DDD	School District Funding for Early Intervention Services; ** School Transition Funding	King County supports legislation that ensures the participation of school districts in early intervention services for birth-to-three year old children with disabilities, which would increase the amount of public funds available for King County's early intervention system.
5	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ MHCADSD	Substance Abuse Residential Capacity	King County supports an increase in substance abuse residential capacity. While King County represents 29 percent of the state population, only 23.6 percent of the state-contracted residential chemical dependency treatment beds are located in King County.
6	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ CSD - H&CD/DAJD	THOR/ THORA Funding	King County supports legislation to maintain or increase the Transitional Housing Operating and Rental Assistance Program (THOR/THORA), which provides operating and rental assistance funding for homeless families.
7	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ CSD - H&CD	Housing Trust Fund	King County supports legislation to increase the Housing Trust Fund (HTF) by \$100 million.



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King County 2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY POSITIONS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
8	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ CSD - H&CD	Insurance Equity for Affordable Housing	King County supports legislation that would help improve the availability of affordable housing insurance in our state.
9	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ CSD - H&CD	Mobile Home Parks	King County supports legislation to create a fund to enforce the Mobile Home Park Landlord-Tenant Act by paying for mediation and arbitration between park owners and tenants. Substantial progress was made in 2005 with ESHB 1640. While there is still no regulatory teeth, the bill provides funding for CTED to investigate complaints and report to the legislature on ways to improve the program, including the use of penalties.
10	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/CSD	Community Mobilization for Drug Abuse and Violence Protection	King County supports maintaining the Violence Reduction Drug Education Account (VRDE) funds to support community mobilization for drug abuse and violence protection.
11	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)	Western State Hospital Funding Formula Allocation New item	King County supports legislation to change the Western State Hospital bed allocation formula. The forensic population at Western State Hospital has grown considerably due to state law changes (SB 6214), which disproportionately affects King County's civil population.
12	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) – Office of the Public Defender	Public Defense Dependency Funds	King County supports reimbursement of county costs associated with the public defense of dependency cases. The State Attorney General determines dependency actions and funds prosecution. The state should pay for public defense dependency costs. In 2005 session, SB 5903 was introduced providing funding for dependency cases, but failed to make it out of the House. A small amount of funding was provided under SB 5454 for dependency funding.
13	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) – Office of the Public Defender	State-Wide Funding of Public Defense	King County seeks public defense funding for criminal cases within any newly created statewide network of funding. In 2005 session, HB 1542 passed, providing for state-wide oversight of public defense, but without funding. SB 5454 provided a very small amount of funding, but King County did not receive a portion.
14	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)	Local Fund Source for Housing and Addressing Homelessness	King County supports enhancement of funding for local revenue for low-income housing development, operating subsidies, and homelessness funds. (i.e., HB 2060 in 2002 and HB 2163 in 2005.) It is likely that an amendment to 2163 will be submitted for additional local option revenue in the '06 Session.



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King County 2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY POSITIONS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
15	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)	Washington Families Fund (Homeless Families Services Fund) New Item	King County supports \$13 million for the Washington Families Fund. This fund was created in 2004 with a \$2 million appropriation. The fund has since raised nearly \$3 million in private matching funds for case management and other services to homeless families but additional funds are needed to continue this successful program.



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King County 2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY POSITIONS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT/EXECUTIVE SERVICES/GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Development & Environmental Services (DDES)	Infra-structure Investment	<p>King County supports the objectives of the Infrastructure Coalition, which is not only trying to address the Urban Growth Area infrastructure gap, but also to better align state infrastructure priorities and funding with growth management objectives.</p> <p>Urban infrastructure needs are severe in transportation, water, sewer, storm water, and other capital areas. Infrastructure is an important investment in King County's economy, and its quality of life. King County's economic growth is threatened by the lack of sufficient infrastructure funding. Sufficient funding of infrastructure is a critical investment in King County's communities. It creates incentives for cities to accept more density and it provides the backbone for a community's quality of life, the framework for economic development, and lays the essential groundwork for accommodating urban residential, commercial, and industrial growth.</p> <p>King County particularly needs the funding to pay for transportation investments to support our 20-year countywide land use plan – as mandated by the Countywide Planning Policies.</p>
2	Executive, Department of Development & Environmental Services	Condominium Liability Reform	King County supports efforts to amend state law to resolve problems facing builders' ability to purchase liability insurance at a reasonable cost.
3	Executive/ Executive Services (DES)/ Facilities Management	County Force Labor on CIP Projects <small>** denotes language added to previously approved statement.</small>	Support inflationary raise in statutory limits in RCWs on amount of in-house County trades/crafts that can be used on Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects. ** WLR specifically requests ability to use KC labor for CIP projects that exceed \$70,000. King County code would need to be amended along with appropriate RCW amendment.
4	Department of Development & Environmental Services/ Fire Marshal	Funding for Fire Protection Activities	<p>King County supports the exploration of options to provide funding for regional fire protection services, such as arson investigations and training.</p> <p>Potential options to consider include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in existing insurance premium tax to be dedicated to fire protection activities. - Allow counties to assess an insurance premium tax for fire protection activities - Allow counties to enter into interlocal agreements with fire districts and municipal fire departments to provide for different types of governance structures for regional fire protection <p>Fire protection services, such as fire investigation and training for fire district personnel, is provided through the County fire marshal and is funded by the County's general fund, which is under extreme pressure. Additional sources of revenue and governance structures need to be evaluated to determine how best to provide these services.</p>
5	Department of Development &	Permit Counties to	King County supports an amendment to RCW 19.28 to allow counties to conduct electrical inspections in the same manner as cities and towns



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King County 2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY POSITIONS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
	Environmental Services/ BSD	Conduct Electrical Inspections	are allowed to conduct electrical inspections. Allowing counties to conduct electrical inspections would enable counties to provide better service, by allowing applicants to obtain all their permits from one location.
6	Department of Development & Environmental Services (DDES)/ LUSD	Permit Counties to Administer Hydraulic Project and Forest Practice Approval	King County supports an amendment to RCW 75.20 (hydraulics) and RCW 76.09 (forest practices) to allow counties to administer those provisions in concert with local permits. State law already requires a consolidated review and issuance for permits at the local level. King County presently has the technical ability to perform such duties. State authorization for funding (permit fees) also will be necessary.
7	Department of Executive Services (DES)/ REALS	Elections	King County supports changing the prerequisites for County Auditors calling special elections. This would repeal the requirement of the Auditor to determine if an emergency exists.
8	Department of Development & Environmental Services (DDES)	Funding for Habitat Acquisition	King County supports amendments to state statutes to increase the limits on Conservation Futures Fund and Conservation District Assessments. These funds can be used by the County to purchase habitat and to otherwise help ease the burden on rural property owners who will be most affected by increased restrictions on development as a result of critical areas protections.
9	Department Of Executive Services/ Emergency Management	Nuclear Attack Planning New Item	King County supports the repeal of RCW 38.52 which prohibits evacuation planning for nuclear attack events.
10	Executive's Office	Anti-Discrimination Legislation New Item	King County supports passage of HB1515, the Anti-Discrimination Bill - which would prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing, insurance, etc.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND PARKS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
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King County 2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY POSITIONS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Natural Resources and Parks – Wastewater Treatment Division	Agricultural Waste-to-Energy Programs	King County supports the establishment of a pilot program offering low interest financing and/or grants for agricultural waste-to-energy public and or private partnerships modeled after Washington revolving loan funds or the State of Oregon Energy Loan Program. This could support renewable energy projects such as dairy biogas.
2	Department of Natural Resources and Parks – Solid Waste Division	Product Stewardship for Electronic Products	<p>Many electronic products contain toxic components and cannot be disposed with municipal solid waste. Increasingly, local governments are finding these products in the waste stream and must pay to handle them as hazardous waste or recycle them. Product stewardship legislation is designed to shift some of the burden of handling electronic products at the end of their useful life from local governments to the manufacturer. It encourages the manufacturer to look at the design of the product as well as how it is disposed. The result would ultimately save local governments money because they would not have to bear the expensive recycling or disposal costs.</p> <p>King County supports product stewardship legislation that contains the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotes the redesign of electronic products to increase their recyclability and to contain fewer toxic components; - Collects a fee to handle electronic equipment at the end of its useful life; - Shares the responsibility for handling these products with manufacturers and relieves local governments of some of the responsibility; and - Saves local governments money.
3	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Conservation and Reclaimed Water	King County supports comprehensive revisions to RCW 90.46 (reclaimed water act) and 90.54 (state water policy) to authorize local governments to develop expanded conservation/reclaimed water programs, to require state rules requiring evaluation and use of reclaimed water in lieu of potable water, and making other changes to state law to encourage conservation and/or expanded use of reclaimed water use.
4	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Tribal Water Rights	King County supports legislation to require engagement by the State with tribes on water resource issues. This would include recognition of tribal rights as a fundamental of state water law (RCW 90.54), and include a schedule/approach for the Governor to engage tribes. It could include specifics regarding watershed planning with tribes, or other engagement mechanisms (e.g., compact), and provisions regarding both instream flows and economic development.
5	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Regional Water Bank for Instream Flow and Out of Stream Uses	King County supports legislation which would authorize creation of a regional water bank wherein to “park” water rights for future determination as to best use [either for in-stream flow uses or to meet Growth Management Act (GMA) needs]; would be managed by local governments and/or other appropriate entities to support needs identified in salmon recovery plans, GMA plans, or other local/regional plans; would provide a mechanism to bank/use mitigation (e.g., Brightwater) or manage water rights acquired in exchange for provision of reclaimed water.



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King County 2006 STATEMENT OF STATE POLICY POSITIONS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
6	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Drought Surcharge for Water Utilities	King County supports legislation which would authorize public water systems to impose up to a 25% drought surcharge on their rates in the event of Governor-declared drought, or regional/local conditions that meet certain criteria regarding rainfall/flows. This would authorize the use of the revenues for increased conservation, revenue makeup, use of alternative supplies, or other drought-related uses; surcharge would end at the end of the drought.
7	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Regional Water Supply Planning under Coordination Act	King County supports any necessary modifications to existing provisions of the Public Water Supply Coordination Act (RCW 70.116) to (1) allow it to be used as a vehicle for countywide water supply planning in conjunction with other interested parties, (2) link it to environmental/salmon recovery planning, (3) implement watershed plans, (4) match up water supply planning with GMA, CWA, (5) address small/failing water systems, and (6) otherwise address regional water resource issues. King County would support the provision of funding by the state to pay a portion of the costs of such planning that has been initiated pursuant to the recommendations in the October 31, 2005 "Planning Framework" endorsed by the multi-stakeholder King County "Scoping Committee."
8	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	State Water Resources Strategy	King County should participate in new water resources legislative efforts in 2006 in order to advocate for our policy positions (e.g., comprehensive; engagement of elected officials and tribes; address GMA and ESA), and support the following specific outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of best science in developing flow objectives (e.g, Normative Flows) and adaptive management - Incorporate collaborative management and decision-making processes that preferably include tribes - Respect, and not undermine, local government authorities and plans (e.g., Groundwater Management Areas and Plans, GMA/land use) - Use funding (e.g., state \$\$ for water rights purchase) consistent with local priorities and plans, and in order to achieve multiple benefits (water for people and fish) - Require state agencies to use existing authorities (e.g., enforcement action against illegal water use; requiring metering as state statute and rule mandate, or disincentives for not metering) - Expand use of trust water program and water banking for fish and instream flow purposes, and not to evade "use it or lose it" provisions of state law.
9	Department of Natural Resources and Parks/ Water Resources	Exempt and Replacement Wells	King County supports wells legislation that: (1) preserves its existing authority under GMA, land use, Public Health laws and regulations regarding determinations of appropriate use of exempt wells; (2) links exempt wells into ESA/salmon recovery planning (e.g., exercise control where there are identified or potential impacts) and water supply planning; and (3) ensures that existing planning under GWMA plans, and King County efforts w/in its Groundwater Protection Program are supported.



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Priority	Department	Item	Description
10	Department of Natural Resources and Parks/ Water Resources	Rainwater Harvesting	King County supports legislation to directly authorize in statute or by state rule the use of minimal amounts of rainwater (e.g., under 25,000 gallons) without the necessity of a state water right or water storage permit. This could include provisions linking to stormwater requirements, watershed planning, and instream flow needs.
11	Department of Natural Resources and Parks – Water Resources	Stormwater Phase1 and 2 Permits	King County supports legislation that makes Phase 2 municipal stormwater permits consistent with Phase 1.
12	Department of Natural Resources and Parks/ Water and Land Resources Division	Watershed Planning and Tribes	King County supports an amendment of RCW 90.82 to permit agreements between jurisdictions and tribes regarding conditions for participating in 2514 and/or other water supply planning and to coordinate such plans with Salmon Recovery plans and Puget Sound Initiative (see below).



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Priority	Department	Item	Description
13	Department of Natural Resources – Water and Land Resources Division	<p>Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program</p> <p>** denotes new language added to previously approved statement.</p>	King County supports the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), which provides an important source of grant funding for acquisitions of wildlife habitat. Approximately 50% of the total funding in this program is allocated to habitat conservation. Reducing the total amount of funding available would impact an important tool for local governments to preserve the region's critical wildlife habitat. ** The administration of this fund has also impacted local government preservation efforts. State agencies are eligible to compete for these grants and in this last round captured all the funds. These agencies have access to State funds through their own budget processes - local governments do not. State agencies should either be disallowed from the grants program or available funds should be divided into two pots - one for State agencies and another for local governments.
14	Department of Natural Resources – Wastewater Treatment Division	Wastewater Sewer Capacity Charge Collection	Support legislation that would allow for up front collection of Wastewater Sewer Capacity Charges. The King County Council adopted this direction in a 2004 ordinance.
15	Department of Natural Resources – Water and Land Resources Division	Watershed Health Board/WRIA Funding	Support creation of the Watershed Health Board to streamline state and federal funding for salmon recover projects and local option funding for WRIA recovery plans.
16	Department of Natural Resources – Solid Waste Division	Mercury	Support legislation to remove mercury-added components from automobile parts.



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Priority	Department	Item	Description
17	Department of Natural Resources – Wastewater Treatment Division	Alternative Contracting for Public Works New Item	Support continuation/renewal of alternative contracting procedures for public works projects authorized by Chapter 39.10 RCW. Statute currently sunsets in 2007. Also support expansion of types of alternative contracting permitted.
18	Department of Natural Resources – Wastewater Treatment Division	Solid Waste Disposal Sites	Support amending RCW 4.22.070(3)(a) so publicly owned solid waste disposal sites are not subject to joint and several liability.
19	Department of Natural Resources – Solid Waste Division	Solid Waste Disposal Districts	Support amending 36.58.100 RCW to allow King County to establish solid waste disposal districts for the purpose of providing and funding solid waste disposal services.
20	Department of Natural Resources – Solid Waste Division	Solid Waste Collection	Support amending 36.58.040 RCW to clarify intent - this section has unintended consequences for solid waste collection.
21	Department of Natural Resources – Water and Land Resources Division	Public Benefit Rating System New Issue	King County supports streamlining the application process of the public benefit rating system and enhancing the benefits available through the public benefit rating system as outlined in RCW 83.34.055.
22	Department of Natural Resources – Water and Land Resources Division	Puget Sound Recovery Initiative New issue	King County supports a new RCW or amendments to existing RCW's pertinent to enabling a coordinated and comprehensive recovery of Puget Sound including coordination with Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan; water supply planning; and appropriate roles of tribal, local and state agencies including PSAT, DOE, WADNR and WDFW. Legislation will need policy statements regarding full recovery of biological, chemical and physical integrity of Puget Sound and its watersheds and coordination with existing plans; organizational structure (potentially new or re-vamped) and roles and responsibilities at state and watershed level; and budgetary legislation that may identify new or re-allocated funding sources. This legislation might need to separately deal with funding in different funds/agencies and may be the primary focus of 2007 session assuming PSI purpose and organizational legislation occurs in 2006.
23	Department of Natural Resources	Civil Warrants New issue	King County supports legislation to authorize WA courts to issue civil search warrants so inspectors can legally enter properties to which entry has been denied for the purpose of determining compliance with local codes, such as water quality, storm water management, septic systems, etc.



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24	Department of Natural Resources	Habitat Project Liability New Issue	RCW currently authorizes reduced local government liability resulting from Flood Control and certain other activities such as road construction and maintenance. King County supports amendments to appropriate RCW's (likely RCW 75. and others) to reduce local government liability for habitat restoration and improvement projects
25	Department of Natural Resources	Northwest Parks Foundation New Issue	King County supports funding for the Northwest Parks Foundation.



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PUBLIC HEALTH

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Executive, Budget, Public Health	Public Health Funding	<p>The core public health needs of King County's population must be addressed by strong and sustained financial support for a continuum of activities that includes disease prevention and health promotion; ensuring a safe and effective food and water supply; and health care services for vulnerable and medically underserved populations. This cannot happen without adequate funding; local public health needs a dedicated, long-term revenue stream.</p> <p>New and emerging public health and safety issues have continued to put a strain on the fragile public health infrastructure. The terrorist attacks of September 11, the subsequent anthrax attacks, the arrival of West Nile Virus in Washington State and the outbreak of Tuberculosis amongst the homeless population in King County have made the public acutely aware of the role of public health in protecting them from the consequences of terrorism and communicable disease. These events have also dramatically demonstrated the extent to which the nation's public health infrastructure has been allowed to deteriorate. While government agencies at the local, state and federal levels have a leading role in preparing for and responding to these and other challenges, all aspects of our health and public health system are critical to the success of this effort.</p>
2	Public Health	Tobacco Settlement Dollars-Tobacco Prevention/Control Program ** denotes new language added to previously approved statement.	<p>** There are currently 80,000 fewer smokers in Washington State than there were 5 years ago. Youth are also smoking at substantially lower rates than before. Tobacco prevention and treatment supported by funds from the Master Tobacco Settlement is having a great effect on the State and King County.</p> <p>King County supports the maintenance of current funding levels for the Comprehensive Tobacco Prevention/Control Program.</p> <p>King County also opposes any further securitization of tobacco settlement funds to fill budget gaps.</p>



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Priority	Department	Item	Description
3	Public Health	Medically Accurate Sexuality Education	King County supports legislation to assure that sexuality education is age appropriate and medically accurate.
4	Public Health	AIDS Omnibus Act	King County supports continued funding for the activities associated with the AIDS Omnibus Act of 1989.
5	Public Health	HIV/AIDS Early Intervention Program	King County supports continued funding for the HIV/AIDS Early Intervention Program (EIP). The EIP disburses payments for prescription medications, HIV medical care and other services to improve the health and independence of persons with HIV infection. Federal and state funds ensure clients have uninterrupted access to lifesaving treatments and other services to protect public health.
6	Public Health	Adult Hepatitis Control	King County supports funding to provide resources to better implement adult hepatitis control, including needed staff, vaccine supplies, other resources, and surveillance that includes lab reporting for HCV.
7	Public Health	Women's Health ** denotes new language added to previously approved statement.	King County supports increased funding for the Washington Breast and Cervical Health Program. State funding has remained at the same level since 1999 – the purchasing power has deteriorated significantly (approximately 35%) due to increased costs in medical services. Consequently, fewer women can be screened each year, while demand for services increases. ** King County supports legislation to put the Washington Breast and Cervical health Program into State statute.
8	Public Health	Youth Access to Tobacco	<p>King County supports Youth Access to Tobacco legislation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise current cigarette licensing law. • Ban the sale of herbal only cigarettes to minors under age 18. • Ban tobacco sampling statewide. • Restrict the locations single cigarettes can be sold and require that all tobacco be sold from over the counter locations. <p>Currently, only a cigarette license is required of vendors that sell other tobacco products, but not cigarettes. This loophole also affects enforcement of sales laws. If a licensee is caught selling any tobacco product to a minor three times in a two year period, they get their cigarette license suspended, but can still sell other tobacco products during that suspension.</p> <p>Herbal only cigarettes claim that they do not contain tobacco. Many youth are turning to these types of cigarettes because they are often flavored with sweet candy-like flavors and do not smell like regular tobacco cigarettes, therefore enabling them to fool their parents. Additionally, new forms of low emission cigarettes and lower carcinogen cigarettes are being developed for sale. Regardless of whether or not these forms of cigarettes contain tobacco, produce lower emissions, or contain fewer carcinogens, they are still considered a health risk due to the fact that they contain many of the same dangerous</p>



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9	Public Health	Gun Safety New Item	King County supports expanding background check requirements on gun purchases in Washington State.
10	Public Health	Fair Share Health Care New Item	King County supports the Fair Share Health Care Bill which sets minimum labor standards for some large employers in Washington State with respect to health benefit expenditures, and to further the State's interest in ensuring that it's residents have access to appropriate health care services. Ensuring that employers do not eliminate employer-paid health care is important for minimizing the burden on taxpayers and the public health system, and protecting the health, safety and well-being of the residents of King County and Washington State.

TRANSPORTATION

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Transportation (DOT)/Roads	Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) and County Road Administration Board (CRAB) Eligibility for Rural and Urban Programs	<p>King County supports legislation to make the definitions of urban and rural areas used by the CRAB and TIB consistent with those for which agencies are required to plan under in the state Growth Management Act (GMA). This would require changes to RCW 36.79.010 and RCW 36.79.040.</p> <p>This change would provide greater flexibility in how and where funding from the CRAB is used. Currently, there are rural areas as defined by the GMA growth boundary that are inside the federal Census-defined urban area. These GMA rural areas are not eligible for CRAB funding. This limits how and where the King County's Road Services Division can expend CRAB funding. An example of this conflict is that under the federal definition of urban/rural boundaries, areas such as Vashon Island and large areas of northeast and Southeast King County are defined as urban and ineligible for CRAB funding. Yet areas such as these that are eligible for TIB funding do not compete well in the TIB urban programs.</p>
2	Department of Transportation (DOT)	Right of Way Use	King County opposes legislation that shifts utility relocation costs to government in certain public rights of way.
3	Executive/Council/DOT	RTID * denotes language added to previously approved statement.	King County supports amending the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) legislation to allow for state bonding authority, additional revenue options, flexible project selection and * flexible district boundaries.
4	Council	Regional Transportation Funding	King County supports sustaining the ability of the region to raise revenue to fund highway and transit projects within the Puget Sound region.
5	Department of Transportation (DOT)	WSDOT Office of Transit	King County supports Funding for WSDOT Office of Transit Mobility: \$20M funding continuation of the WSDOT Office of Transit Mobility created in 2005 legislature to fund projects that coordinate transit systems and relieve congestion - this increases funding for congestion reduction in key



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Priority	Department	Item	Description
		Mobility New Issue	corridors. Repeal of Truck Weight Fees could endanger this fund
6	Department of Transportation (DOT)	Commute Trip Reduction Amendment and Reauthorization New Issue	King County supports the redesign of the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) law as proposed by the Governor's CTR Task Force. The CTR law as originally enacted in 1991 had the CTR Task Force sunset in 2006. The Task Force was asked to evaluate the CTR law and propose changes. Changes are focused on congested corridors/centers with priority funding such as King County and reduce efforts in less congested counties and corridors such as Yakima and Whatcom counties. King County also supports expanding the law to cover smaller employers within centers.